



Approved Minutes  
**Historic Preservation Board**

**Date:** October 6, 2015

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** 57 E. First Street, Lower Level Council Chambers

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests
Janice Gennevois, Chair Wendy Mack-Allred, Vice Chair Jim Taylor Annalisa Alvrus, Ph.D. Laura Schaffer-Metcalf, Ed.D. Greg Marek Louise Swann		Kim Steadman	Vic Linoff Sandra Andrews Christine Close

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Gennevois called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Approval of the September 1, 2015 minutes

Board member Taylor proposed corrections to the minutes. Under item 5, paragraph 3 the unidentified neighbor should be Christine Close, and the Secretary of the Interior Standards reference should read "36 CFR 68".

Vic Linoff noted his name was misspelled in the "Guests" attendance box.

First motion made by Board member Shaffer-Metcalf to approve the minutes with corrections and seconded by Vice Chair Mack Allred.

Motion carried 7-0

3. Review the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Pasadena neighborhood meeting and discuss options for consideration of historic designation for this area

Vice Chair Mack-Allred gave an overview of the meeting, stating the turnout was disappointing. She discussed the possibility of two districts being formed, and stated there are stand-alone houses that qualify for Historic Landmark designation, but not as part of the district. The idea of a neighborhood party to raise awareness and interest was discussed as well as the need for funding for such an event.

Board member Taylor asked how much has been invested, so far, in this district. Board member Mack-Allred responded that a pass-through grant and volunteer hours the City has not incurred any cost to date. There was general discussion of Prop 207 waivers, raising interest in the neighborhood, and having neighbors express that interest to Council.

Board member Marek observed that until neighborhood interest is established, the focus can be on historic designation of individual structures and this will build interest.

Staff member Kim Steadman stated that Mr. Wesley has discussed raising neighborhood interest by mailing the survey pages, with an informational letter, to individual property owners.

#### 4. Update on progress for the West Side Clark local historic designation

Sandra Andrews, 440 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St, explained that in a continuing effort to get Prop 207 waivers signed they have been going door to door. They hope to have a November 13<sup>th</sup> street party with live music, and a notary available for Prop 207 waiver signatures. They are considering ideas to raise funding to close the street. General discussion followed with suggestions of a neighborhood yard sale, checking to see if NEDCO has funds available to help, and inviting the bands to contribute tip receipts.

#### 5. Discuss the downtown shade structures and options for possible removal

Vic Linoff discussed the removal of shade structures. He knows of an owner of two buildings who is interested in removing the canopies. There is general support but no funding to remove canopies. There is discussion of replacing them with another form of shading that is compatible with the historic form of the buildings.

Chair Genevois identified a property owner who is interested in removing the canopy in front of his building.

Board member Marek asked who is taking the lead with this project. Mr. Linoff responded that the Mesa Preservation Foundation is. Discussion followed about whether a letter to Council and the Mayor could help.

Chair Genevois proposed meeting with the Mayor, with Mr. Linoff and Jeff McVay.

Board member Marek said a project manager is needed to move it forward. It was proposed that Jeff McVay be invited to the next Historic Preservation Board meeting to discuss.

Chair Genevois said she would call Jeff McVay to invite him to the next meeting.

Christine Close, 508 W. Clark, spoke in defense of the canopies and the shade they provide. The Board responded that the historic buildings are hidden, limiting them from getting historic status. Also, they hide the businesses.

#### 6. Update on information for the student writing contest for the coming year

Board member Schaffer-Metcalf updated the Board on her efforts for the contest. She sent a note to Mesa Public Schools and 20 private and charter schools. She is working on outreach through Channel 11 and a press release.

Board member Taylor discussed adding a notice in utility bills. Board member Schaffer-Metcalf discussed working with John Wesley and Kevin Christopher to get into the "Open Line" publication.

#### 7. Update on Buckhorn Baths

Vic Linoff updated the Board. This doesn't need to continue as an agenda item. Negotiations have stopped and the property is up for sell. There is a U of A graduate student project to raise ideas for adaptive reuse. Students are to present their projects at the Dobson Room at the Mesa Arts Center in January.

Board member Alvrus discussed the idea of seeking a grant to document the site using Lidar GIS (an optical remote sensing technology used to collect data).

8. Prepare for the next 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday event in downtown Mesa

Vice Chair Mack-Allred reported on the last event. She, her husband and board member Taylor worked the last event. Attendance is increasing. Topics of interest vary each time. The next date is Oct. 9th.

Chair Genevois asked who would work the next event. Chair Genevois and board member Alvrus volunteered. Plans for set-up were discussed.

9. Updates on Museums, Exhibits, Committees and Events related to Historic Preservation

Vic Linoff updated the Board. Valley Metro donated their mockups of historic panels. West 2<sup>nd</sup> St was featured on the City Manager's *Mesa Now*. See it on Ch. 11.

Vice Chair Mack-Allred said she has the Light Rail posters for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday display.

10. Board Member comments, questions, and future agenda items

Board member Swann updated the board on her search for photos of historic properties. She has found a handful of photos at the Historic Museum, and will give them to John Wesley for the website.

Board member Marek asked if the owners of the Sunkist building are interested in historic status. Vic Linoff said the owner will keep the exterior but is not providing public access. Also, there is a documentary being prepared on the Nile Theater.

Chair Genevois proposed an agenda item for the November meeting: Jeff McVay will be invited to discuss the removal of the Main St. shade structures.

Kim Steadman said there is a conflict with the scheduling of the December meeting and staff proposed cancelling for December.

11. Adjournment

Chair Genevois adjourned the meeting at 7:12 pm.

First Motion made by Board member Mack-Allred and seconded by Board member Taylor.  
Motion carried 7-0

Supporting data is available for public review in the Planning Division,  
Municipal Building, 55 N. Center St., Mesa, Arizona 85201

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